

## THE TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE AND ITS WORK.

LIZZIE TRITSCH.

Read at the Kanemorado conference by Lizzie Tritsch.

I noticed in the Golden Rule, some time ago, this advertisement, Lost—Several committees; may be recognized by their general air of drowsiness. I am afraid this refers to the temperance committee, unlike the other committees its work is so easily slighted, yet so important.

Our Christian Endeavor at Carleton, has none, but a few weeks ago our good pastor awakened us to the fact that we must have a temperance committee at work.

The three essentials in C. E. are the pledge, consecration, and committee work, we must not neglect the committee work, especially the temperance committee.

The temperance question, is the one great question that is agitating the Christian world to-day.

The saloon is the great source of sorrow and crime, and makes a ghostly contribution to disease and death.

Has not the young people's C. E. movement come to the kingdom for such a time as this? Does not God inspire and direct our actions?

This society is in the right position to undertake the greatest campaign yet made against King Alcohol and his host. It is continually snatching boys and young men from its poisonous claws and turning their thoughts heavenward; it is now drilling the future leaders in all departments of social, political and religious life.

Let the millions of Christian young people, from every nation, move like a mighty army against this destroyer of bodies and souls.

We expect great things from God, let us attempt great things for him.

I know the temperance meetings are the hardest to be made interesting, the members say, "O, it is the same thing over and over again, I am so tired of it." This ought not to be so, with the terrible illustrations of the evils of intemperance in every community.

The temperance committee can arrange to have union temperance meetings, and make them attractive, or

co-operate with other temperance organizations.

This committee can have Demorest Medal contests; these are instructive and appeal for the temperance cause.

It might occasionally have a good temperance lecture.

It can ask persons to sign the pledge of total abstinence.

It can do a great work in scattering temperance literature.

In God's name let this work be speedily undertaken.

### THE PLEDGE.

BY LIZZIE TRITSCH.

As the constitution of the United States is to the United States, so our pledge is to Christian Endeavor, it unites and strengthens us and makes us upright in our work.

The pledge is the backbone of C. E. work; without it our ranks over two thousand strong, would weaken and lose their power to do. Imagine a person without a backbone, how weak and what a drudge he would be, content to be grovelling in the dust, for he could not be upright. Not so with us, our aim is higher, God has a greater work for us to do.

Let us notice some of the characteristics of the pledge. It is definite, it binds us to do certain things at certain times, if it simply read, "I promise to do my duty on all occasions," it would be so broad and vague that a great many of us would not feel its binding strength.

It is positive, there is not a negative clause in it, it does not say, I will abstain from doing this and that, but, I will pray, I will read the Bible, I will support my own church and attend its meetings. It also relates to clearly defined duties, to private devotion, and loyal support of one's own church, and to out spoken confession of Christ. Such is the nature of the pledge.

We have been asked, "What is the pledge anyway? Does it really mean that all the members are to be present and take part in every meeting? Do you think it right to substitute a man made pledge for God's law and direction? Certainly not, listen how it reads, "Trusting in the Lord Jesus for strength, I promise him

that I will strive to do whatever he would have me do." Let us study the pledge as we read it. The first line shows that the keeping of it is no trivial matter but touches every hour of my life, the fact that we must trust in another proves that we cannot do it ourselves. Trusting in Jesus. Is that easy? What is trusting in Jesus? It matters not how grand a building may be, how stately its towers or how costly its ornaments; if its foundation be insecure, the building is a failure and stands condemned.

Trusting in Jesus for strength is the foundation of our pledge keeping. Oh, let us see that it is perfectly secure. Often receiving strength, we are ready for his service, ready for the "I promise" of the pledge. It is a solemn thing to make a promise with God, though we may break our promise to him, and forget it, he never will.

To pray, not only when in perplexity or sorrow, but every day, prayer draws us closer to God so we can accomplish more in our work for him.

To read the Bible every day; "It is written, man shall not live by bread alone but by every word of God." Let us be spiritually fed.

To support my own church in every way possible, especially by attending the regular Sabbath and mid-week services.

To be true to all my duties, the disagreeable and hard as well as the pleasant and easy ones.

To attend every Endeavor prayer-meeting and take some part aside from singing, unless hindered by some reason I can conscientiously give to my Lord and Master. And send something to be read at the consecration meeting if obliged to be absent.

It asks us to do nothing if we have a reason for not doing it we can give to Jesus. Dear friends, do you read the pledge as I do or do you read it thus? Trusting in my own strength I will do just as I want to; I will pray and read the Bible every day, when I have time and do not forget it.

I will attend the regular church services every pleasant Sunday morning—unless some popular divine should preach from some other pulpit, and I am curious to hear him, I will attend the mid-week services—unless there is